

Joy Rousseau, Ed. D.

Arp Independent School District: IT Director, Instructional Technology Specialist, Web Instructor

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Bio for Online Learning

Born in Portland, Oregon and having lived all over the United States, Joy Rousseau settled in beautiful East Texas in 1981 where she gained advanced degrees in Computer Science, Curriculum and Instruction and an EdD in Education Administration. She began her experience in distance learning in 1974 with her second post graduate degree at Midwestern State University as one of the program's initial correspondence degree graduates. Her vision for online learning expanded with a single modem line in her classroom in 1991 which allowed her to become a TENET moderator and T-STAR manager. She was selected for a team to assist NASA researchers in exploring the potential of the Internet for education in 1994.

Dr. Rousseau wrote a computer aided instructional software program for her Master's thesis in 1993 and began to dream about the potential of computer aided online instruction. She initiated the development and implementation of the SUPERNet Consortium and later the Virtual High School. Her son was the pilot student for the VHS.

Acquiring multiple grants for infrastructure and student devices, she partnered with UT Health Science Center and East Texas schools to form the SUPERNet Consortium, arranged for multiple cable companies to provide student-created programming for the community access channel, acquired multiple Internet Service Providers for discounted rates to economically disadvantaged students, and assisted TCET the in evaluation of five states' initiatives in best practices for technology integration.

Professional experiences for Dr. Rousseau include being a member of the following advisory committees: SUPERNet, TxVSN, SACS Quality Assurance Review, DEC for TSII, ISTE to the FCC, and TCEA. Dr. Rousseau is also a successful grant writer. Arp ISD currently has a 1:1 district initiative, which includes grades 6-12 in online learning and 24/7 capacity. Arp Elementary School was just awarded the Texas Loaning Program Grant. The district offers online dual credit, SUPERNet VHS courses, third party online credit recovery, BYOT, and hybrid/blended courses through teacher blogs and Web 2.0 tools.

Honors and achievements include being selected as a Bill Ratliff School Executive Academy Scholar & Webmaster through which she gained her Superintendency certificate. She won the Gold Award from the Texas Cable TV Association for student broadcasts through the local community access channel and the INTEL© Teach to the Future Award for outstanding leadership in multi-district professional development. She has provided professional development to Texas educators through TCET, TASA/TASB, ISTE, NETNET, SUPERNet, and TCEA and is a certified Continuing Education Provider for the state of Texas. She has also provided professional development to education leaders at the University of Tartu, Estonia, the University of Moscow, St. Petersburg and Barnaul, Russia and the University of Donetsk, Ukraine.

